

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1 1. A method for reporting hardware platform errors, said  
2 method comprising:  
3 storing error data corresponding to each hardware  
4 platform error in a storage area, wherein the  
5 error data includes a flag indicating whether the  
6 error data has been reported; and  
7 reporting the error data.
- 1 2. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:  
2 receiving a request from one of the partitions;  
3 providing the error data to the requesting partition;  
4 and  
5 setting the flags included in one or more of the  
6 provided error data indicating that at least one  
7 partition has been notified of the error.
- 1 3. The method as described in claim 1 wherein the error  
2 data is stored in an error buffer.
- 1 4. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:  
2 receiving the error data at one of the partitions; and  
3 determining whether the errors included in the error  
4 data have previously been reported to at least  
5 one partition, the determination including  
6 analyzing the flag corresponding to each error.
- 1 5. The method as described in claim 4 further comprising:  
2 transmitting one or more errors included in the error  
3 data in response to the determination being that

4           the one or more errors have not previously been  
5           reported.

1   6.   The method as described in claim 4 further comprising:  
2       highlighting one or more errors included in the error  
3       data in response to the determination that the  
4       one or more errors have not previously been  
5       reported; and  
6       displaying the highlighted errors on a display device.

1   7.   The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:  
2       receiving the hardware platform error from a component  
3       included in the hardware platform;  
4       setting the flag corresponding to the hardware  
5       platform error to indicate that the error has not  
6       been provided to at least one of the partitions;  
7       determining an error identifier that corresponds to  
8       the error; and  
9       writing the error identifier and the corresponding  
10      flag to an error buffer.

1   8.   An information handling system comprising:  
2       one or more processors;  
3       a memory accessible by the processors;  
4       one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by  
5       the processors, the nonvolatile storage devices  
6       including one or more system partitions;  
7       an error buffer for storing errors detected in the  
8       information handling system; and  
9       a error handling tool to manage the detected errors,  
10      the error handling tool including:  
11      means for identifying one or more errors corresponding  
12      to the information handling system; and

13 means for including error data for each of the errors  
14 in the error buffer, wherein the error data  
15 includes a flag corresponding to each error  
16 indicating whether at least one system partition  
17 has been notified of the error.

1 9. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 8 further comprising:  
3 means for receiving a request from one of the system  
4 partitions;  
5 means for providing the error data to the requesting  
6 system partition; and  
7 means for setting the flags in the error buffer  
8 corresponding to one or more of the errors  
9 indicating that at least one system partition has  
10 been notified of the errors.

1 10. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 8 further comprising:  
3 means for receiving the error data at one of the  
4 system partitions; and  
5 means for determining whether the errors included in  
6 the error data have previously been reported to  
7 at least one system partition, the determining  
8 including analyzing the flag corresponding to  
9 each error.

1 11. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 10 further comprising:  
3 a network interface for transmitting information to a  
4 second computer system; and  
5 means for transmitting one or more errors included in  
6 the error data to the second computer using the

7 network interface, the transmitting performed in  
8 response to determining that the one or more  
9 errors have not previously been reported to at  
10 least one system partition.

1 12. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 10 further comprising:  
3 a display device accessible by the processors;  
4 means for highlighting one or more errors included in  
5 the error data in response to determining that  
6 the one or more errors have not previously been  
7 reported to at least one system partition; and  
8 means for displaying the highlighted errors on a  
9 display device.

1 13. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 8 further comprising:  
3 one or more components accessible by the processors;  
4 means for receiving the error from one of the  
5 components;  
6 means for setting the flag corresponding to the error  
7 to indicate that the error has not been provided  
8 to at least one of the system partitions;  
9 means for determining an error identifier that  
10 corresponds to the error; and  
11 means for writing the error identifier and the  
12 corresponding flag to the error buffer.

1 14. A computer program product for providing hardware  
2 platform errors, said computer program product  
3 comprising:  
4 means for identifying one or more errors corresponding  
5 to the hardware platform; and

6 means for including error data for each of the errors  
7 in a storage area, wherein the error data  
8 includes a flag corresponding to each error  
9 indicating whether at least one partition has  
10 been notified of the error.

1 15. The computer program product as described in claim 14  
2 further comprising:

3 means for receiving a request from one of the  
4 partitions;

5 means for providing the error data to the requesting  
6 partition; and

7 means for setting the flags corresponding to one or  
8 more of the errors indicating that at least one  
9 partition has been notified of the errors.

1 16. The computer program product as described in claim 14  
2 wherein the error data is stored in an error buffer.

1 17. The computer program product as described in claim 14  
2 further comprising:

3 means for receiving the error data at one of the  
4 partitions; and

5 means for determining whether the errors included in  
6 the error data have previously been reported to  
7 at least one partition, the determining including  
8 analyzing the flag corresponding to each error.

1 18. The computer program product as described in claim 17  
2 further comprising:

3 means for transmitting one or more errors included in  
4 the error data in response to the determining

5           that the one or more errors have not previously  
6           been reported.

1   19.   The computer program product as described in claim 17  
2        further comprising:  
3        means for highlighting one or more errors included in  
4           the error data in response to the determining  
5           that the one or more errors have not previously  
6           been reported; and  
7        means for displaying the highlighted errors on a  
8        display device.

1   20.   The computer program product as described in claim 14  
2        further comprising:  
3        means for receiving the error from a component  
4           included in the hardware platform;  
5        means for setting the flag corresponding to the error  
6           to indicate that the error has not been provided  
7           to at least one of the partitions;  
8        means for determining an error identifier that  
9           corresponds to the error; and  
10       means for writing the error identifier and the  
11       corresponding flag to an error buffer.